

# Performance-Based Assessment of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team During Covid-19 Pandemic in Ozamiz City

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## ABSTRACT

Peacekeeping is the important function of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team in their respective barangay, BPAT visibility is the one main focus of this peacekeeping activity. Hence, this study was conducted to determine the level of performance of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) in regards to their skills in patrolling, identifying violation in the community, basic self-defense skills and crowd control skills of selected Barangays in the City of Ozamiz during COVID-19 pandemic. The researchers employed a descriptive-correlational type of research characterized by gathering data from 100 respondents from the selected barangays in Ozamiz City. Moreover, survey questionnaire was used to gather the data. Furthermore, mean and standard deviation were the statistical tool used in the data analysis. Results revealed that the majority of Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) officers were very responsive in safeguarding and patrolling the neighborhood during the day and night while on the state/verge of pandemic. BPAT officers are highly knowledgeable and visible in securing their respective communities through ronda or patrol activity. BPAT officers also perform intelligence monitoring during the pandemic. The findings may provide additional information to the PNP and may give insights to the institution for the improvement of the performance of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) at the barangay level. Lastly this study recommends to maintain the BPAT's excellent performance, and if possible to retrain them in upgrading the skills, and to have constant monitoring and evaluation of their performance and to establish a wider coverage of study or can be done to the entire city.

**Keywords:** community, evaluation, peacekeeping, performance, skills

## 1. Introduction

A peaceful and secure environment is critical to every society as it affects all aspects of economic and social development (Trochowska-Sviderok, 2021). In ensuring the peace and order within the community, the Philippine National Police's (PNP) community-oriented policing strategy has gone a long way toward delivering proactive police services to the public (Hough, 2018). A peacekeeping paradigm that was sensitive to the Philippines' unique peace and order situation was developed along these lines (Nsia-Pepra, 2019). The idea is for PNP members to take the lead in combating all forms of criminality (including insurgency) in their areas of responsibility, leveraging active citizen involvement and community empowerment (Laru-an & Penny, 2019).

However, as peace and order and public safety concerns evolve, a continuing effort to improve the delivery of these services is required (Shemella, 2021). The Barangay Peacekeeping Operations (BPO) and its implementors, the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPAT), are examples of the PNP's commitment to providing the best possible policing system for our people (Saligan et al., 2018). These has the primary task of ensuring that peace and order in every barangay in which they conducting peacekeeping activities in every association with the various sectors of the community (Vicente et al., 2020). They assist and share mantle of responsibility with the PNP for fighting crime within the community (Vicente et al., 2020).

The peacekeeping actions are overseen by the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team, which promotes police visibility, which is an important duty for the police. Without this peacekeeping mission, it would be difficult for police visibility to not be used to combat criminality in all situations. Furthermore, maintaining people's living harmonies in the community is an important component of the barangay's peace and order. The goal of peacekeeping operations is to bring about peace. It will be difficult to remain calm without it, and heightened police

visibility is not practicable in all scenarios, failing to achieve its goals of reducing criminality (Moore, 2018). Further, The Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team was established as the primary operators to operate a Community-Oriented Placing and Public Safety System under the jurisdiction of the National Peace and Order Councils and the Philippine National Police.

The Philippines, as history indicates, had its own distinct approach to community policing (Brogden, & Nijhar, 2019). While we have adopted many community policing methods in the past, such as Japan's Koban and the Singapore Police Force, we now have to rely on our own native policing system, bayanihan, which is based on community partnership (PNP, 2019). Bayanihan addresses the need for the entire community to participate in police and law enforcement (Cruz, 2021). The community expects the police to "serve and protect," and the police, in turn, rely on community support and collaboration to succeed (Aguirre, 2021). It has used a variety of anti-criminality techniques and concepts in the past to combat crime and maintain peace and order (Vicente et al., 2020). The majority of the suggestions, however, were found to be unsustainable because they were just altered versions of crime prevention concepts from other nations and were not appropriate for the Philippines' current criminality problem (Lim et al., 2020).

In December 2019, the authorities in China reported an outbreak of pneumonia of an unknown origin in Wuhan, Hubei Province, resulted in global pandemic that affected almost 221 countries and territories (Shangguan, Wang, & Sun, 2020). Corona virus also known as COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus (World Health Organization, 2020). The most common symptoms of this viral infection are fever, cold, cough, bone pain and breathing problems, and ultimately leading to pneumonia (Haleem, Javaid, & Vaishya, 2020). This infectious disease (COVID-19) not only affects people's lives but also socially and economically (Milani, 2021).

As COVID-19 spread a lot in the community, nowadays and become one of the major problems in the Philippines (Nicomedes, & Avila, 2020). With the daily increasing of COVID-19 cases in the Philippines, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte implemented a protocol; the wearing of face mask, face shield and observance of physical distancing to minimize in contact with the disease (Cruz, 2021). According to the World Bank the COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to push an additional 88 million to 115 million people into extreme poverty this year, with the total rising to as many as 150 million by 2021 (Eyre et al., 2021). People with immense stress and anxiety as they suffer from poverty and fear of the infectious disease, might lead them to commit a crime as they can no longer handle the negative psychological effect given with the environment they were living (Ganesan et al., 2021). Given that it might lead them to commit a crime, the security of the land must be tightened to maintain the peace and order of the society (GAMURARI, & GUŞANU, 2020).

Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) is also not exempted from the risk of the COVID-19 as they are also being exposed to public areas of some parts of the Philippines (Cruz, Frontuna, & Tus, 2021). As the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) is also one of the front liners, a lot of violators were taking advantage of the pandemic situationin which cause an additional problem to the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (Orenze, Coballes, & Ferrer, 2021). Peacekeeping is the important function of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team in their respective barangay, BPAT visibility is the one main focus of this peacekeeping activity (Saligan et al., 2018).

But regardless of the sense of duty of all Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team to manage and perform their functions well, there is still some times that they can't cover all the situations that really need their response (Saligan et al. 2018). In line with the peacekeeping concept responsive to the unique peace and order condition in the Philippines, it's still needs to be crafted in order to develop a secure environment for the community (Rzhevskaya, & Moroz, 2021). Thus, this study was conducted to determine the level of performance of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) in regards of their skills in patrolling, identifying violation in the community, basic self-defense skills and crowd control. This will determine their capabilities in performing their duty when there might be another crisis outbreak in the community. The findings may provide additional information to the PNP and may give insights to the institution for the improvement of the performance of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) at the barangay level.

## 2. Methods and Materials

The study utilized descriptive-correlational design. It is a research design used to discover relationships among variables and predict events from present knowledge (Stangor, & Walinga, 2019). The descriptive type of research is designed to investigate a certain topic to gather information about the existing condition or situation. This method is the most appropriate to ascertain the profile of the respondents in each of the variables to be considered in this study. According to Aquino (1992), the purpose of the descriptive method is to systematically, factually, and accurately describe a situation or area of interest.

A descriptive study aims to give a glimpse of the existing situation. Correlational research aims to uncover correlations between variables and anticipate future events based on current information. (Stangor & Walinga, 2014). Correlational designs systematically investigate the nature of relationships or associations between and among variables rather than direct cause-effect relationships. Correlational designs are typically cross-sectional. However, this is simply because two associated events do not automatically indicate that one triggers the other. This design is appropriate for exploring the performance of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) during COVID19 pandemic.

The study conducted in different barangays in the City of Ozamiz. Ozamiz City is the 3<sup>rd</sup> class component city in the province of Misamis Occidental. The city was subdivided into 51 barangays, specifically Barangay Maningcol with a population 5,864 inhabitants and has a total land area of 188,412. Barangay Gango with a population of 6,669 inhabitants and has a total land area of 169, 543. The researchers choose Barangay Gango and Maningcol as its setting because the BPAT officers of the said place were active in performing their duty during the pandemic and it is a near place wherein the community can be easily approached.

The respondents of this study were residents from the selected Barangay's namely: Gango and Maningcol. These barangays were purposively selected to be assessed in regards to the implementation of all the mandatory regulations during Covid-19 pandemic. In determining the number of respondents, the Cochran's formula was used the sample size was selected through random sampling. So, based on the initial identification of the respondents they consist of one hundred (100) in two barangays. Fifty respondents each barangay was chosen to ensure a controlled population.

A Performance Base Assessment questionnaire adopted from Koops (2001) was used to gather all the need data in the study for data analysis. The survey questionnaire was composed of two divisions. The first part was designed to look into the Profile of the respondents. The second part determined the responses of the respondents on the performance of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) in relation to their skills. It contains statement with regards to the skills in patrolling, identifying violation in the community, basic self-defense skills and crowd control skills.

The weighted mean was further interpreted using a modified 5-point scale of the two groups of respondents on assessing the performance of the BPAT's in relation to the implementations of their skills.

Numerical Value	Mean Range	Descriptive Value	Interpretation
5	4.24 – 5.00	Always Implemented	Excellent
4	3.43 – 4.23	Often Implemented	Very Satisfactory
3	2.62 – 3.42	Moderate Implemented	Satisfactory
2	1.81 – 2.61	Rarely Implemented	Fair
1	1.00 – 1.80	Not Implemented	Poor

The researcher has also used the Chi-square in treating data on the significant difference on the performance of the BPAT members as their skills in patrolling, identifying violations in the community, self-defense skills and crowd control skills during duty as perceived by the community when they are grouped according to their profile.

The data collection was done seriously with precaution to the minimum health standard protocol in order to obtain the reliable information from the identified respondents who were residents of the identified barangays in the City of Ozamiz. Before the researchers conduct the survey with the identified respondents the researchers asked permission first, from the Dean of the College of Criminology of the university allowing the researchers to pursue the study and to conduct the survey. Once the approval from the dean is obtained, the researchers asked permission from the three different Barangay Captains of Maningcol and Gango in allowing the researchers to conduct the survey with appropriate questionnaires within the two barangays. The researchers informed the respondents that all their responses in the survey and the questionnaires are kept with utmost confidentiality.

Before the study is conducted, approval from the appropriate authorities was obtained prior to the study's execution. Before receiving their full agreement as volunteers, the respondents were given a thorough explanation of the study's purpose. It was also stated that this study would do no harm to the respondents and that they could withdraw at any time if they felt threatened. Furthermore, it was ensured that people's privacy and confidentiality were protected, such as keeping the names of those engaged private and not revealing them to the public. The research subjects' dignity was a major priority.

To enable the researchers to present the data in accordance with the objectives set in this study, both descriptive and inferential statistics were used.

The following statistical tools are used in the study:

Mean and standard deviation were used to assess the performance of Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team during COVID-19 pandemic. Chi-square in treating data on the significant difference on the performance of the BPAT members as their skills in patrolling, identifying violations in the community, self-defense skills and crowd control skills during duty as perceived by the community when they are grouped according to their profile.

### **3. Results and Discussions**

#### ***3.1. Profile of the Study***

Table 1 shows the frequency distribution of the respondents as to their profiles. Majority of the respondents age ranged from 20-30 years old and 41-50 years. Some of the respondents belong to the rest of the brackets. Almost 61 percent of the respondents were female while the remaining 39 percent were male respondents. In regards to their place of residence both have the same total number of 50 respondents.

**Table 1.** Frequency and Percentage Distribution of the Respondent's Profile

Profile	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Age</b>		
20-30 years old	27	27.00
31-40 years old	18	18.00
41-50 years old	27	27.00
51-60 years old	18	18.00
61-70 years old	7	7.00
71-80 years old	3	3.00
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	39	39.00
Female	61	61.00
<b>Place of Residence</b>		
Gango	50	50.00
Maningcol	50	50.00
Total	100	100.00

#### ***3.2. Performance of the BPAT members as to their Skills in Patrolling***

Table 2 presents the data on the performance of BPAT officers as to their skills in patrolling. The findings shows that the BPAT officers' skills in patrolling has the highest mean of 4.10 in assisting the Barangay Officials in conducting patrol during COVID-19. On the other hand, BPAT officers get the lowest mean of 3.70 when using

their weapon/equipment in times of patrol/ronda during COVID-19. Despite this, they are making improvements in their work to overcome their weakness and demonstrate to the community that they can still achieve their objectives despite the risks of being infected with the COVID-19 disease.

With an overall weighted mean of 3.96 with verbal description of often implemented. This supports that the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team can be reliable on the level of Law Enforcement. Thus, they are serious with regards to their duty as depicted from the other weighted mean. Like they conduct patrol day and night or even during natural disasters. Monitors the presence of suspicious persons, criminals, and other lawless elements within the barangay in daytime and night time during COVID-19. And implements teamwork in patrolling/ronda in preventing or otherwise minimizing the commission of crime in the barangay. In terms of the sphere of practice, residents collaborate on social issues of common concern. Most of the time, the goal is to reform policies related to local issues, such as public safety (Speers, 2019).

The result implies that the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team and the barangay officials are working together as members of society. This further signifies that both parties are in sync when it comes to the safety of the community.

**Table 2.** Skills in Patrolling

Statement	Mean	Interpretation
1. BPAT conducts patrol/ronda at day time during COVID-19.	3.90	Very Satisfactory
2. BPAT conducts patrol/ronda at night time during COVID-19.	4.09	Very Satisfactory
3. BPAT uses their weapon/equipment in times of patrol/ronda during COVID-19.	3.70	Very Satisfactory
4. BPAT conduct mobile patrol day and night time during COVID-19.	4.05	Very Satisfactory
5. BPAT was assist by the Brgy. Officials in conducting patrol during COVID-19.	4.10	Very Satisfactory
6. BPAT conducts patrolling/ronda even during natural disasters (calamity and typhoon).	4.01	Very Satisfactory
7. BPAT implements teamwork in patrolling/ronda in preventing or otherwise minimizing the commission of crime in the barangay during COVID-19.	3.96	Very Satisfactory
8. BPAT monitors abandoned buildings that may be used for clandestine activities during COVID-19.	3.75	Very Satisfactory
9. BPAT was organized and mobilized in various sectors of	3.99	Very Satisfactory

the community in support of the maintenance of peace, order and safety during COVID-19.

10. BPAT monitors the presence of suspicious persons, criminals, and other lawless elements within the barangay in daytime and night time during COVID-19.

<b>Weighted Mean</b>	<b>3.96</b>	<b>Very Satisfactory</b>
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*Note.* Performance Scale: Always Implemented (4.24 – 5.00 ); Often Implemented ( 3.43 – 4.23 ); Moderately Implemented ( 2.62 – 3.42 ); Rarely Implemented ( 1.81 – 2.61 ); Not Implemented ( 1.00 – 1.80)

### **3.3. Performance of the BPAT members in Identifying Violations in the Community**

Table 3 shows the data on the performance of BPAT officers in identifying violations in the community. BPAT officers showed a highest mean of 4.14 in conducting patrol/ronda in curfew hours during COVID-19. The result indicates that BPAT officers patrolling or having their ronda around the community made the community feels safe and are visible to the community's eyes. Law violators are blocked to their opportunities to commit crime during the pandemic as BPAT officers are patrolling during curfew hours. On the other hand, BPAT officers got the lowest mean of 3.93 on to their observation skills in which the very important skills of being a BPAT officers. This result needs some improvements and seminar to enhance their observation skills as they are also one of the frontliners amidst the pandemic.

**Table 3.** Identifying Violations in the Community

<b>Statement</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
1. BPAT received and record emergency calls during COVID-19.	4.03	Very Satisfactory
2. BPAT conducting surveillance on crime breeding areas within the barangay/purok and report their observations/findings to the proper authorities or through Hotline “117” during COVID-19.	4.02	Very Satisfactory
3. BPAT observe and taking note of the time of arrival, weather condition, surroundings, persons present, persons arriving and leaving the scene during COVID-19.	3.93	Very Satisfactory
4. BPAT conducts patrols/ronda in curfew hours during COVID-19.	4.14	Very Satisfactory
5. BPAT monitors the activities of suspicious persons and other lawless elements within the barangay during daytime and night time.	4.01	Very Satisfactory
<b>Weighted Mean</b>	<b>4.03</b>	<b>Very Satisfactory</b>

*Note.* Performance Scale: Always Implemented ( 4.24 – 5.00 ); Often Implemented ( 3.43 – 4.23 ); Moderately Implemented ( 2.62 – 3.42 ); Rarely Implemented ( 1.81 – 2.61 ); Not Implemented ( 1.00 – 1.80)

With an overall mean of 3.96 which their duties are often implemented. Although Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team oversees the peacekeeping operation first hand before the police personnel will arrive and considering the workload they have during pandemic plus the number of dangers they can get as frontliners and the fear of putting their family at stake, they only can get honorarium from their respective barangay for 4,000 pesos at least every month.

In this pandemic, they face various novel challenges that increase their stress when they engage in a potentially dangerous situation, putting additional strain on their health, emotions, and other factors. They are under pressure to adhere to the various health procedures required, and they must guarantee that the public is safe and well-ordered. Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team maintain emotional and mental stability to show the public a strong citizen in the country in the face of adversity (Bayan, 2019).

The result implies that the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team has showed a low level of performance in regards to their observation skills. This further signifies that there's a need for the BPAT to be trained in regards to their observation skills since this is one of the most important skills that they should have as a part of the law enforcement officers.

### ***3.4. Performance of the BPAT officers as to their Basic Self-Defense Skills***

Table 4 shows the data on the performance of BPAT officers as to their basic self-defense skills. Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team able to apply their basic self-defense skills and only apply they have been with a mean of 3.78. With their basic self-defense skills, it can be seen that BPAT officers are reliable when it comes to threatening situation, they can secure the community and their own safety. Despite being exposed to a variety of dangerous scenarios throughout the pandemic, they were able to manage their fears and compose themselves in challenging situations. The data revealed that Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team can execute basic self -defense and other alternative skills that are needed during difficult time. They never lost their self-assurance and were able to control their emotions. When things aren't going well, they're more inclined to see the problem as transitory rather than permanent, and to concentrate on the components of the situation that can be addressed in difficult conditions. They can modify their mind to calm down when they are stressed. Managed stress by planning ahead, dealing with problems immediately, setting priorities, maintaining strong relationships, and confronting situations honestly Yang & Coids (2021).

Since the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team have a significant role in containing the spread of COVID-19, efficient management of the pandemic's demands is critical to protecting police officers' ability to operate, well-being, and health. Given that their skills have negatively impacts performance (Nieuwenhuys & Oudejans, 2017) Thus, training and awareness programs will be held to help both old and new BPAT develop the skills they need to carry out their obligations within the organization. Workshops, scenario-based rule plays, briefings, and focus groups are examples of these programs and training. The idea is to get people to assume personal responsibility for their own safety and to prepare them to make decisions that procedures can't always predict (CPNI, 2017). The result implies that the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team that their basic self-defense skills are applied when it comes to threatening situation at the same time they need more training so that it will improve their basic self-defense skills more.

**Table 4.** Basic Self-Defense Skills

<b>Statement</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
1. During threatening situations in pandemic, they able to apply their basic self-defense skills.	3.78	Very Satisfactory
2. During threatening situations in pandemic, their execution of basic self-defense skills is different than during their training.	3.72	Very Satisfactory
3. During threatening situations in pandemic, they also apply alternative skills than just the taught basic self-defense skills.	3.74	Very Satisfactory
4. During threatening situations in pandemic, they only apply the taught basic self-defense skills.	3.78	Very Satisfactory
5. During threatening situations in pandemic, they are able to perform effectively without applying the taught basic self-defense skills.	3.76	Very Satisfactory
<b>Weighted Mean</b>	<b>3.76</b>	<b>Very Satisfactory</b>

*Note.* Performance Scale: Always Implemented ( 4.24 – 5.00 );Often Implemented ( 3.43 – 4.23 );Moderately Implemented ( 2.62 – 3.42 );Rarely Implemented ( 1.81 – 2.61 );Not Implemented ( 1.00 – 1.80 )

### **3.5. Performance of the BPAT officers as to their Crowd Control Skills**

Table 5 presents the data on the performance of BPAT officers as to their crowd control skills. The result shows the highest mean of 4.12 on BPAT officers assisting the Barangay Officials in controlling the crowd when there are barangay activities during the pandemic. As the community was still in the state of pandemic, BPAT officers are very needed to the Barangay Officials with assisting them in giving relief goods and “ayuda” to the community.

The data also reveal that BPAT officers has the lowest mean of 3.99 in assisting the PNP in responding to riot/rumble taken to their barangay during pandemic commotions. Due to their limited man power and various workload they have during pandemic, they immediately call for police assistant and leave the rest of the responsibility to the police personnel to do the other duties in their area of jurisdiction.

Many agencies confront additional challenges because they must employ a diverse workforce. (East, 2018). Given that Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team frequently in conflict situations, where they are under pressure from others, where they are criticized, judged, and subjected to numerous requests.

Despite this, they manage to overcome it and demonstrate to the public that they can still achieve their objectives despite their overburdened workloads and responsibilities. The result implies that the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team are reliable especially in assisting the Barangay Officials when there is an event, or on giving relief goods or “ayuda”, as well as managing the people via crowd control.

**Table 5.** Crowd Control Skills

<b>Statement</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
1. BPAT assists Brgy. Officials in controlling the crowd during barangay activities (e.g. giving of relief goods and etc.)	4.12	Very Satisfactory
2. BPAT assists persons with disability, elderly and the sick in times of barangay activities during pandemic (e.g. giving of free check-up/medicine)	4.07	Very Satisfactory
3. BPAT assists the Brgy. Officials from crowd control and keep the people calm in order to avoid panicked during natural disasters	4.01	Very Satisfactory
4. BPAT assists the PNP in responding to riot/rumble taken to their barangay during pandemic commotions	3.99	Very Satisfactory
5. BPAT assists in facilitating smooth flow of traffic and performs other functions like assisting events in enforcing the minimum health protocol	4.05	Very Satisfactory
<b>Weighted Mean</b>	<b>4.05</b>	<b>Very Satisfactory</b>

*Note.* Performance Scale: Always Implemented ( 4.24 – 5.00 );Often Implemented ( 3.43 – 4.23 );Moderately Implemented ( 2.62 – 3.42 );Rarely Implemented ( 1.81 – 2.61 );Not Implemented ( 1.00 – 1.80 )

### ***3.6. Significant difference in the performance of the BPAT officers as to their Skills as perceived by the community when they are grouped according to their profile***

Table 6 presents the significant difference in the performance of the BPAT officers as to their skills in patrolling, identifying violations in the community, basic self-defense skills, and crowd control skills during duty as perceived by the community when they are grouped according to their profile. The table below indicates that there is no significant difference of the community evaluating the performance of the BPAT as to their age. However, sex and place of affiliation have significant difference in assessing the performance of BPAT.

In this pandemic with all eyes are on the frontliners, the populace have keen observation of how they are performing specially the Barangay Peacekeeping Action team of every barangay. Thus, regardless of the age of the respondents, so long as they are able see how their BPAT manifested the seriousness and dedication in performing their task as law enforcers in the barangay.

On the other hand, sex and place of affiliation as shown on the table below plays significant difference. Given the fact the most of the respondents are female. In the study of Eagly, (2018) women are more interested with maintaining group unity and connecting with others on average than men. Taken together, this suggests that men are more likely to stand firm, act independently, and refuse to conform when they are observed by others, but

women are more willing to adhere to others' beliefs to avoid social conflict. When conformity occurs in private, these distinctions are less noticeable.

In addition to sex and the place of affiliation of the respondents. Although they belong to the same city, they are not the same in demographic data. The way the respondents assessed the BPAT was most likely connected to their socio-economic statuses, such as employment, education, and the overall population in their barangay, which affect how BPAT performed and is being distributed by how large their workloads are.

**Table 6.** Significant difference in the performance of the BPAT officers as to their skills in patrolling, identifying violations in the community, basic self-defense skills, and crowd control skills during duty as perceived by the community when they are grouped according to their profile

Profile	Chi-Square	P-value	Decision
Sex	17.25	.000625	Significant
Age	15.42	.219109	Not Significant
Place of Affiliation	14.96	.004773	Significant

#### 4. Conclusions

According to the findings of the study, the majority of Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team officers were very responsive in safeguarding and patrolling the neighborhood during the day and night while on the state/verge of pandemic. Barangay law enforcers are highly knowledgeable and visible in securing their respective communities through ronda patrol activity. BPAT officers also perform intelligence monitoring during COVID-19. BPAT officers help to coordinate efforts with the community to address social and economic concerns that affect community. BPAT officers continue to do their best to protect their communities' safety.

On the other hand, for the performance of the BPAT they may maintain the efficiency of their job so that harmonious relationship will be maintained as well. Lastly, regarding the skills of the BPAT they may re-orient themselves so that they will not forget those skills of them and reassure the community as their benefactors that during the time of calling BPAT are capable of everything

#### 5. Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, these were the recommendations arrived intended specifically to the following:

1. To the Local Council headed by the Barangay Chairman, to have constant monitoring and evaluation of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) performance to identify the different strengths and weaknesses of every individual for future training for enhancement.
2. To the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) members, they are encouraged to continue their service and enhancing their skills in dealing with the community's different concerns most specially during this COVID-19.
3. To the Community of the city, they may extend their help through strong participation if there might be a new ordinance or mandates that will benefit everyone.

4. Lastly, to the Future Researchers, this study might help them to have a wider coverage so that other areas might be in concern for studying which may result to have a possible concrete suggestion from them.

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### *Competing Interests Statement*

*The authors declare no competing financial, professional and personal interests.*

### *Consent for publication*

*Authors declare that they consented for the publication of this research work.*

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